the Atlanta HAM

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC SEPTEMBER 2000

Elections begin new era

By John Talipsky, KI4Y
Ham Editor

Repeater Techie, Penn McClatchey, K4PE, defeated incumbent John Talipsky Jr, KA4VQH, at last month's elections for President of the Atlanta Radio Club.

About 25 Hams attended the ARC's monthly meeting at the Red Cross Training Facility. It was nice to see a vigorous spirit in the club as evidenced by the two slates running for office.

Both candidates pledged to continue the club's recently renewed energy.

Penn McClatchey's main focus for 2001 will be the repeater upgrade that was begun this summer.

Also elected at the August meeting were Dick Bently, K2UFT, vice president; Bill Bass, W4LFC, treasurer; and David, KF4MDV, secretary.

"We have an exciting repeater upgrade underway and a good sense of community" — K4PE

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW

Children's hospital uses Ham Radio

from The ARRL Letter / ARRL Website: http://www.arrl.org on August 31, 2000

A program at Tampa Children's Hospital St Joseph's is introducing Amateur Radio to some of its young patients.

TCH patients can participate in Amateur Radio learning sessions with physicians and hospital staff who are ham operators at the hospital's Kids Space Ham Radio.

"I love teaching children about the workings of Amateur Radio," says TCH pediatric cardiologist and Amateur Radio operator Dr James Huhta, AA4MD.

"The Kids Space Ham Radio program not only helps get the children's minds off of their illnesses, but it also exposes them to a hobby they may enjoy the rest of their lives."

--Greg Brostowicz St Joseph's-Baptist Health

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THE ATLANTA HAM

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Contact the editor for other formats to transfer material.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS THE 21ST OF EACH MONTH!

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THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

Originally known as the "Atlanta Wireless Club," the Atlanta Radio Club is one of the oldest and largest amateur radio clubs in the United States. With nearly 200 members, the Club sponsors numerous activities and services for its membership and for the Atlanta area amateur radio community.

The Club is best known for its sponsorship of the annual Atlanta HamFestival, a two-day event which hosts many vendors, exhibitors, and flea marketers of amateur radio equipment and other electronic equipment, including computers

Bank of America Tower
Site of Atlanta Repeaters:
146.2(-), 224.34(-) and 444.825(+)

W4DOC REPEATERS

The Atlanta Radio Club operates six repeaters at two locations. Currently our most active project is at the Bank of America Tower where we operate three repeaters at 146.82(-), 224.34 (-), and 444.825(+). All our repeaters are undergoing extensive renovations during the summer of 2000. Click here for a Acrobat 4.0 diagram of what we plan to have on the air by January 1, 2001.

Our second location is the WFOX broadcast tower at Chestnut Mountain, south of Gainesville, GA. We operate three repeaters on 145.35(-), 224.56(-), & 444.45(+) . These repeaters are being renovated under the expert guidance of Tim, WK4U, and should also be on the air before January 1, 2001. For pictures of that site, see http://www.saf.com/arc/wfox.html

The 73rd Atlanta Hamfest
June 2001 THE PLANNING BEGINS!

ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS

MEETING NOTICE

WHEN: Thursday September 9, 2000 730pm
WHERE: The Red Cross Training Facility
Lindbergh Plaza – Piedmont and Sidney Marcus
PROGRAM: Military Affiliate Radio Services
Bill Little, KE4PN

DON'T FORGET DINNER @ THE PICADILLY 6:15PM

The Picadilly is located at the end of the building where our meeting room is located

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In my first message to the members of the Atlanta Radio Club I would like to thank the outgoing officers. We have an exciting repeater upgrade underway and a good sense of community. So thanks to John Jr, John Sr, Stan and Charles for all their hard work during the past year.

I would also like to thank the men who agreed to serve with me this year. Bill, W4LFC, has agreed to come out of retirement and serve as Treasurer and Membership chairman. This is one of the most labor-intensive jobs on the board and we owe him a debt of gratitude for taking it on. Dick, K2UFT, who is a past President of the ARC, is also on board to help. Add that to his responsibilities as License Trustee for the W4BIW (WFOX) repeaters, and he's pulling a full load. David, KF4MDV, who will serve as Secretary, may be the youngest officer the club's ever had. We are fortunate indeed to have such a talented young man to help us. The "Big Project" initiative at the ARRL will give us an agenda for the recruitment and education of young peple before the end of the year. As the ARRL president Jim Haynie said, "The Big Project will continue to fuel the optimism that pervades our hobby." David's presence will be helpful in this regard.

We have much exciting work ahead of us this year. Foremost, we hope to put the finest repeater system in the Southeast on the air. We need several things to fall into place for that to happen.

1. We need locations for the remote receive sites. We desperately need one in Gwinnet County to cover the Northeast side of town, so any leads there will be appreciated. We may also need antenna work at these locations. We also need additional remote receiver and link equipment.
2. We need to hire a contractor to install antennas at the Bank of America building.
3. Our repeaters at WFOX need to be linked to the Bank of America repeaters via 900 Mhz. We considered using 220 but decided against it because of the accessibility of the WFOX site. There is a new high power broadcast antenna being installed beneath our cabinets that are near 1500' off the ground. WFOX's antennas are above our cabinets so accessibility has never been a big problem, but the elevator that goes up the middle of the tower will go right past these new high power antennas. We'll need to have the site managers turn off these high power transmitters any time we need access, and that is something they'll almost never do! So, the equipment to be installed at WFOX must be very reliable, and should be commercial quality. The new 145.35 repeater is a GE repeater but there is almost no commercial 220 FM gear available. We hear that Motorola and MDS both make

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President's Message continued

(Continued from page 3)
commercial quality 900 Mhz equipment, so we'll be shopping for that.

4. Sometime this fall, we'll need a crew of club members with strong backs to carry the new repeater cabinet to the top of the bank site. Perhaps we'll announce a date at the next club meeting.

There are many other repeater related tasks but these are the ones that will likely be the bottlenecks. We'll give you an update each month here.

The next important item on our agenda is the hamfest. The hamfest committee will hold our first organizing meeting on September 21st. We'll announce the location at our next meeting, but I hope it will be at the Red Cross training center in the same room as our monthly club meetings. All interested parties, members and non-members are welcome to attend. You can also check http://www.saf.com/atlfest.htm for the latest information.

I have worked hard appointing a new slate of managers. While Rubens, PT2RFL, has resigned as repeater manager, Andy, KD4ABB, has agreed to take this job. There is no one I know of who has worked harder for the repeaters than Andy, and my hat is off to him for agreeing to take the job. Thanks also to John, KA4VQH, who agreed to be activities manager. His top priority will be for us to have a Field Day to attend. We might put one on ourselves, or we might join with another club, but in any event we'll have a Field Day event our members can attend.

Finally the program for the September meeting will be Military Affiliate Radio System or MARS. The Georgia state director, Bill Little, KE4PN is coming down from Waleska. He has just attended a nationwide conference on MARS and their new emphasis on emergency communications. What is MARS you ask? To quote from their website, http://www.baskets.com/navymars/, "The Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) is a Department of Defense sponsored program, established as separately managed and operated programs by the Army, Navy-Marine Corps and Air Force. MARS members are volunteer licensed amateur radio operators who are interested in providing auxiliary or emergency communications to local, national and international emergency and safety organizations, as an adjunct to normal communications." So I don't steal any of his thunder, I'll let KE4PN tell you more about it September 7. Be there! **73, Penn, K4PE**

NEED TO ADVERTISE?
THIS COULD HAVE BEEN
YOUR SPOT IN THE HAM
CONTACT JOHN KI4Y...

METRO TESTING SESSIONS

1st Sundays 2:00 p.m.
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs Rd Gainsville, GA 30505
Contact: Terry Jones, K4FB - 770-967-6374, e-mail k4fb@mindspring.com
NOTE: No exams planned in July and September.

1st Mondays 7:30 p.m. EVEN MONTHS ONLY
Club Shack located behind
2152 West Broadway Athens, GA
Contact: Scott Sikes KD4MSR, - 706-543-4917, e-mail vsikes@negia.com

1st Saturdays 9:00 a.m.
Clayton County Emergency Management Building
7946 N. McDonough Street Jonesboro, GA
Contact: George White, KN4NG - 404-361-6850

2nd Tuesdays 7:00 p.m.
Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Road Snellville, GA
Contact: Wayne Taylor WD4CCA - 770-498-7759

2nd Saturdays 8:30 a.m.Stone Mountain United Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain Street
Stone Mountain, GA
Contact: TBD

3rd Saturdays 9:00 a.m.
Marietta First United Methodist Church
56 Whitlock Avenue Marietta, GA
Contacts: Joanne AC4JQ or Larry WA4CQZ Huff - 770-955-3171, e-mail wa4cqz@mindspring.com

4th Sundays 2:30 p.m.
Georgia Tech Student Center
Georgia Institute of Technology Atlanta, GA
Contact: Brennan Price KU4WJ 404-892-8255

4th Tuesdays 7:30 p.m.
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road Douglasville, GA
Contact: Jesse Clower KB4WFK - 770-942-6466

4th Fridays 7:00 p.m.
Saint John Neumann Catholic Church
Regional School Building
801 Tom Smith Road Lilburn, GA
Contact: Howie Gould W9HG - 770-921-8362

Bring both originals and copies of any current amateur license and any certificates showing credit from a previous exam that you need to have counted toward a possible new license or upgrade.
An examination fee will be charged at each session. This fee is for the entire session and not an individual element. 1997 fees will range from $6.00 to the 1997 FCC maximum of $6.26.

ALWAYS CALL AHEAD TO CONFIRM TESTING DATES & TIMES

AROUND TOWN...

1st Tuesday Kenehoochee ARC Meeting 7:30pm
First United Methodist Church Marietta

1st Tuesday Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers
6;30pm Old Hickory House , ChambleDunwoody-I285

1st Thursday Atlanta Radio Club Meeting 7:30pm
Details Front Page…

2nd Wednesday North Fulton ARS Dinner 6:30pm

2nd Thursday Alford Memorial RC Dinner 6:00pm
Meeting 7:30pm Elks Lodge Memorial Drive

2nd Saturday East Atlanta LAN , PACKET Meeting 10:00am
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church 4755 N. Ptree Rd Dunwoody

3rd Thursday Gwinnett ARS Meeting 7:30pm
Central First Baptist Church Lawrenceville

Signman of Baton Rouge

879Castle Kirk Drive ,Baton Rouge, LA 70808 USA
(225) 757-1545 Phone , (225) 766-9387 Fax
Toll-Free 888-HAM-TAG1 (888-426-8241)
Http://thesignman.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION WWW.SAF.COM/ARC

ULS registration is moving slowly

The FCC has confirmed that fewer than one-fifth of US Amateur Radio licsees--including club stations--are registered on the Universal-Licensing System. The FCC deployed the ULS for the Amateur Service justunder a year ago, although registration has been available far longer.

The question of how many hams now were ULS-registered arose during the July21 meeting of the National Conference of Volunteer-Examiner Coordinators, held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Not even the FCC officials on hand had an answer. After the meeting, RC Smith, W6RZA, of the Greater Los Angeles VEC crunched some numbers to see if he could supply one for his colleagues.

Starting with the 717,629 licensees in the FCC database at that point, Smithsubtracted the 31,449 determined to be expired but within the two-year graceperiod. Sorting on the Licensee ID Number field, Smith came up with 129,947 ULS registrants, or 18.9% of the remaining 686,180 licensees.

The FCC's Steve Linn, N4CAK, says the Commission ran its own numbers and came up with a similar figure--although without subtracting for those within the two-year grace period. "The quick run done here looked at all active records--717,314--and how many had Licensee ID numbers, giving 18.1%," Linn said this week. "Take out the grace records and we're in the same-ballpark."

During his comments at the Dayton Hamvention FCC forum, Linn encouragedamateur licensees to register with ULS to "lock in" their FCC records. ULS registration, he said, "protects your call sign within the system" and could prevent it from inadvertently being deleted or reissued due to a filing error.

All amateurs must be registered with the ULS in order to file applications with the FCC, even for such routine matters as a change of address or a license renewal. Registration requires that licensees supply a Taxpayer Identification Number, or TIN--a Social Security number for an individual. Some amateurs have protested that requirement citing privacy concerns, but the FCC has maintained that it's bound by the Debt Collection Improvement Act to require it.

Last month, the FCC announced that it has begun implementing the new Commission Registration System, or CORES. Registration in CORES eventually will replace ULS registration, although the FCC has not indicated just when the switch will occur. CORES registration also will require registrants to supply a TIN. Those already registered in ULS need not register again in CORES, however. The FCC says the ULS will continue to be the primary Amateur Radio licensee database and the only means to file applications and updates.

The FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau recently announced expanded hours for ULS technical support. ULS users may now reach the FCC Technical Support Hotline, 202-414-1250, from 7 AM to 10 PM weekdays. Weekend service is newly available. On Saturdays the Hotline will be available from 8 AM until 7 PM and on Sundays from noon until 6 PM (all times Eastern). Users also may contact tech support via e-mail at ulscomm@fcc.gov.

For more information, to access the ULS or to register, visit the FCC's ULS site, http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls.

CLASSIFIEDS

EQUIPMENT

TOWER...29Ft GAP TITAN w/ counter pose. 7 Bands. RG8 Included. MUST SELL...MOVING!
Contact: betdav@gulftell.net

MISC EQUIPMENT…
Life Member DON BROWN, W4MY is retiring from HAM RADIO and wishes to liquidate his station. You must visit his station to buy items. No inventory will be provided
Contact: Don 404-365-9695

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS!
Are you a club member looking to clean out the old shack...Looking for some help?…Here is your place to list it for free

ADS ARE DONE ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS!

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC.
PO BOX 942150
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 31142150

SEPTEMBER 2000 MEETING

Date: SEPTEMBER 7, 2000 Thursday
TIME: 7:30 pm
LOCATION: Red Cross Training Facility . Lindbergh Plaza
PROGRAM: MARS